

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7 are pending, and applicant hereby requests the cancellation of claims 1-6 without prejudice. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (canceled)
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)
6. (canceled)
7. (original) A method of reducing waste-water effluent stream produced during the conversion of trona ore into sodium bicarbonate comprising:

first converting said solution-mined trona according to a monohydrate process into sodium carbonate with the concomitant production of a first waste-water effluent stream containing sodium carbonate; and utilizing said waste-water effluent as a feed stream for a process of converting sodium carbonate into sodium carbonate decahydrate with the concomitant production of a first downstream waste-water effluent stream, and converting said sodium carbonate decahydrate to sodium bicarbonate with the concomitant production of a second downstream waste-water effluent stream, whereby the total amount of effluent waste-water in the two aforesaid downstream waste water effluent streams is less than the amount of the effluent waste water in the said first waste water effluent stream.